

Hill Top Church
Mendham, Morris County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

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Hill Top Church
Mendham, Morris County, New Jersey

Owner: The Trustees of Hill Top Church

Date of Erection: 1860

Architect: Aaron D. Hudson

Builder: Aaron D. Hudson

Present Condition: Good

Number of Stories: One with steeple

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - frame
construction

Interior walls - plaster

Roof - pitch, metal
shingles

Historical Data:

In 1738 a combined Presbyterian and Congregational meeting house was established in a log structure at Ralston. Later in that same year, the Presbyterian Church was moved to Mendham. In 1745 a new church was built on the site of the present church. The second church was of frame construction. In 1816 this structure was torn down and a new one was built on the same site. This was destroyed by fire in 1859, and the present building was erected and dedicated February 1, 1860.

10/23/51

Architecturally the building is of minor importance. It is a well proportioned structure with the base of the steeple projecting in front of the main building. The gabled roof is surrounded by a complete Doric entablature, supported by plain pilasters at the corners. The steeple is a modified copy of the Sir Christopher Wren type.

The interior of the church was remodelled about 1913, and is of no particular interest. It is in the pseudo Gothic style. The only remaining portions of the original interior trim are the window casings and wainscoting.

While the Continental Army was encamped in and around Morristown, the old church was used as a hospital. Many soldiers died during this winter of small-pox and twenty-seven of these lie buried in the churchyard.

Bibliography:

Axter, S.B. History of Morris County New Jersey New York, W. W. Munsell and Company, 1882

Field Book and Drawings of Survey

Walter C. Rutt

Supervising Historian

Approved:

Seymour Williams

SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, A.I.A.
District Officer

Rev. Sept. 5 '36 T.W.